



Image

Application No. 09/785,502  
Docket No. 740819-501

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of: )  
Yoshihisa NAGANO et al. ) Examiner: Edward Wojciechowicz  
Serial No. 09/785,502 ) Group Art Unit: 2815  
Filed: February 20, 2001 )  
For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY DEVICE )

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The undersigned certifies that either (1) each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement, or (2) no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.


Enclosed is a copy of an Office Action from the State Intellectual Property Office of People's Republic of China dated January 2, 2004, for the corresponding Chinese patent application.

Examiner's attention is directed to U.S. Patent No. 6,194,758 which is in the patent family of the Chinese Patent Application whose publication no. is CN 1221220A. Additionally, U.S. Patent Application Laid Open Gazette No. 2001/0001211 is in the same family of Chinese Patent Application no. CN 1221220A.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

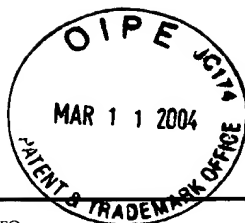
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380. (740819-501)

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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<b>Substitute for form I449A/PTO</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b> <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	09/785,502
				Filing Date	February 20, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Yoshihisa NAGANO
				Art Unit	2815
				Examiner Name	Edward Wojciechowicz
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	740819-501

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-6,194,758 B1	02-27-2001	Tanaka et al.	
		US-2001/0001211 A1	05-17-2001	Tanaka et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		CN 1221220 A	06-30-1999			

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		CHINESE OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 2, 2004	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.